



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF:



*Sunny Chung*

Last week marked the tragic loss of Sunny Chung, former Rochester and Gates police officer and dear friend to many of us. Mention Sunny's name to any of those who worked alongside him and an instant smile crosses one's face. Sunny's good nature and the many fond moments that we shared with him have produced memories that will last a life time. But beyond the good times that we had with him, Sunny was a man who had to face many challenges and barriers throughout his career.

As Sunny's class counselor, I had the honor and pleasure of getting to know Sunny very early on in his career. As the first ever Korean born police officer in Monroe County, Sunny faced tremendous language and cultural hurdles while working the streets of Rochester. However, Sunny was able to overcome all of these barriers, and established the foundation for an exceptional law enforcement career.

Sadly, while working for the Gates Police Department, Sunny was involved in a very serious on duty motor vehicle accident while responding to a call for service. As a result, Sunny suffered partial brain damage that ultimately ended his career. However Sunny remained a dedicated husband and father to his wife and children and remembered many of his brother and sister police officers from the law enforcement community that he loved.

A few months after I was appointed Chief, Sunny stopped by to visit and congratulate me. The accident may have changed him slightly but it could never change who he was at his core. He was warm, passionate, humorous, concerned, open and charismatic.

Sunny Chung, though retired, remained one of us; and his untimely passing is a loss not only to our law enforcement community, but to the greater Rochester/Monroe County community as a whole. Please keep Sunny and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

# R P D NEWS

June 2012

## PAL HOLDS CITY YOUTH BASEBALL CLINIC



Rochester Police Officers traded in their uniforms and badges for cleats and mitts on Saturday, May 12th. More than 50 kids from the Rochester Hispanic Youth Baseball Program got lessons in throwing, batting and catching from members of the Police Department during the Rochester Police Athletic League's youth baseball clinic.

Legendary local baseball coach and former Rochester Red Wing, Ed Nietopski, was the main instructor for the clinic. After brief instruction in specific areas, the kids would break off into groups to work on their skills with the assistance of the police officers.



Members of the Department volunteered their time to run drills for kids including: Lieutenant Scott Peters, Lieutenant Jeremy Lindauer, Sergeant Bill Spath, Investigator Ed Bernabei, (Retired) Officer Ed Rivera, Officer Nelsy Madrid, Officer Ed Morelli, Officer Pat Piano, and Officer Jose Munoz.

## ETF SEEKS RECRUITS AT SUPER HERO DAY

On April 28th, Lt. Scott Peters and Fabian Rivera attended a "Superheroes Day" put on by 4-H and the Cornell Cooperative Extension. The event was centered around kids activities with superheroes as the theme. The volunteers and the children were encouraged to dress up as their favorite superhero.



ETF members attended with their equipment and represented real-life superheroes. There was constant activity around the ETF table all day with kids trying on SWAT gear and posing for pictures. The team had a great time talking to the kids and all their family members.





### 10TH ANNUAL "BUZZ THE RED, WHITE, AND BLUE" EVENT

On Sunday, June 3, 2012, members of the Rochester Police Department shaved their heads in order to raise money for the Dream Factory of Rochester, in their 10th annual "Buzz the Red, White, and Blue" event. This very worthy charity raises funds for area children who are chronically and critically ill, and make a difference to the children whose "dreams" they grant.

Members of our Department who took part this year included: Chief James Sheppard, Lieutenant Rob Wilson, Sergeant Steve Boily, Sergeant Laszlo Tordai, Sergeant Dan Zimmerman, and Officer Sam Lucyshyn.

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### "HEALTHY KIDS" THANKS RPD OFFICERS

Healthi Kids, an initiative of the Finger Lakes Health Systems Agency, would like to extend a special thank you to the officers who participated in Part I of our SafeGrowth training. The training focuses on the principles of "Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design" (CPTED). CPTED is a tool which helps residents assess their surroundings to ensure it's safe for people of all different ages and abilities. In addition to Part I, these officers worked with residents in four city neighborhoods on a project utilizing these skills. The group will present their findings at Part II of the training in June.

Thanks again to Officers Roy Adukkalil, Tony Belliard, Mike Decocq, Carl Dickerson, Andy Di Maria, and Laurie Robinson for their support and commitment to our community!

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### NOLAN WENBERT RECEIVES OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD



Officer Nolan Wengert moved from Sauquoit, NY in August 2006 for the sole purpose of becoming a part of the department and was assigned to Patrol Division West in 2007. He has spent almost his entire career working in the southwest area of the city, assigned to the West Division's 3rd platoon. His favorite part of police work is actively looking for criminals committing gun or drug related offenses and searching for suspects with outstanding wanted packages.

Ofc. Wengert is also a Field Training Officer, General Topics Instructor, and a part of the department's Firearms Training Unit. He has also been recognized with several Chief's Letters, Excellent Police Service Awards, a Distinguished Service Award, and named Officer of the Month. On accepting the award, Ofc. Wengert said that any good arrest or investigation he was involved in was solely a result of good teamwork with the people he works with, and he was proud to be considered for this award alongside the other nominees. He expressed thanks to his family, friends, mentors/trainers, and fellow officers. He gave special thanks to the current and former members of West 3rd and the other officers he works with every day on the street.



### OFFICER MOSES ROBINSON RECEIVES YOUTH ADVOCATE AWARD

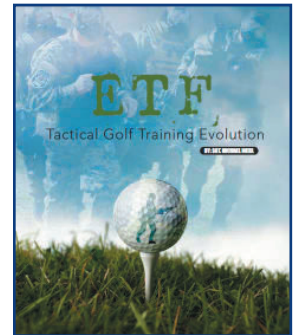
Officer Moses Robinson has been selected to receive the 2012 Willie W. Lightfoot Youth Advocate of the Year Award. He was nominated by Honorable Karla Boyce for his participation and commitment to the community.

The Rochester Monroe County Youth Board will host a reception for all honorees and their families at the Monroe Community Hospital Brass Chandelier Room at 6:00 pm on June 13th. A proclamation ceremony will follow at 6:30 in the hospital's auditorium. Congratulations, Moses!

### SGT. MIKE DIEHL AND THE RPD ETF ARE FEATURED IN POLICE MAGAZINE

In the spring of 2008, the Rochester Police Department's Emergency Task Force decided to think outside the training box and create a full-day training event that was tactically unconventional. The idea was presented to the team commander and training coordinator that they "hit the links".

One may ask, how can an evening of golf be justifiable SWAT training? Easy, you throw the word "Tactical" in front of it. That's right, "Tactical Golf". The reality is that this day of training was tough. The goal was to create a training evolution that would accomplish several goals established in the annual training calendar.



### A REAL TOP GUN!

Dave Rodriguez, son of RPD Officer Tommy Rodriguez, received his pilot "wings" on Friday, May 18th in Texas. Dave is a Lt. in the U.S. Navy and has been selected to fly the F-22 Raptor. He is the only Lieutenant selected for the F-22 from his class, and the first selected since last November. This is a huge accomplishment!

Dave graduated from Greece Odyssey High School in 2006 and earned his private pilot's license at the age of 16, while still in high school. In fact, he had his pilot's license before he had a drivers license! His private instructor at Bill Law aviation said, when Dave got his license, he was "a natural pilot".



Dave was appointed to both the US Air Force Academy and the Naval Academy, but he chose the Air Force. He graduated from the Air Force Academy in 2010 with a degree in Aeronautical Engineering. Dave will spend a few weeks flying the F-16 in Nevada or Arizona prior to reporting to Tyndall AFB in Panama City, Florida for his F-22 training. Flight training for Dave consisted of 22 weeks in the T-6 (primary aircraft training) and then 24 weeks in the T-38 Talon.

Congratulations Dave and Tommy!



## MEDIC #1 RETIRES

Marty Ward retired from Rural Metro and ETF on May 25th. He worked for Rural/Metro for almost 40 years, and was the SWAT Medic for 18 years.

Marty started the Tactical Medic concept in this area, and today the RPD ETF is one of the only teams in New York State to have Tactical Medics on SWAT operations outside of NYC. Marty is still employed as a MCSO Jail Deputy, so he may look familiar to some officers. Marty also completed the ETF Obstacle Course every Qualification Day, just like every other team member, until he was 60 years old!

On Marty's last day, the entire team carried him through the full course, and over every obstacle. He carried the team for 18 years, and it was the team's time to carry him! The Team retired his ETF Medic #1 designation. As of his retirement day, no future ETF Medic will be called Medic #1.



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## MCAC SPEEDWAY

During the week, Jeff Colegrove works as an analyst at MCAC, the Monroe Crime Analysis Center. But in his off time, Jeff trades in his pocket protector and computer for a crash helmet and a high performance race car!

The car is called a Formula 500 car, which is an open wheel formula car. Minimum weight is 800 lbs. with driver, and it generates about 105hp. It has over 2G of lateral grip and 2.5G of braking grip. In other words, it takes only 1.2 seconds to stop from 60 mph. The car will go almost 140 mph in a straight line, and can go from 0-60 in three seconds.

At the end of each season, Jeff travels 1,200 miles to Lincoln, Nebraska to compete in the SCCA Solo National Championships. With over 1,150 competitors, the SCCA National Championship is actually the largest amateur motorsports event in the world. In 2011, Jeff and his brother had a 1-2 finish; Jeff won the national championship by just 0.148 seconds over his brother, Stefan. Over two miles of racing, this works out to about 10 feet at the finish line, which is not even a whole car length. The gap to third place was 2.5 seconds. They also set the second and third fastest times at the entire event!

To see Jeff in action, click on this link: <http://youtu.be/Koq5dWhpBxA?hd=1>



## OFFICER STEVE SCOTT PIO, RETIRES

The end of this month will mark the end of the extraordinary career of Officer Stephen Scott. When I was initially appointed Chief, I recall being highly impressed with Officer Scott's work ethic, professionalism and presence; so much so that I knew that I had to have him continue in his position as the department's PIO.

Officer Scott joined the RPD in 1992 and he has worn many hats during his twenty year career. From his early days of working Lake Section, and Clinton Section, to his time in the Special Investigation Section and later, Patrol Division West, Officer Scott has always been a street cop at heart. Officer Scott was a Field Training Officer for 15 years and he proudly helped shape many of the fine officers that we have amongst us today. Through his work as a defensive tactics, firearms, EVOC, domestic violence instructor, and hostage negotiator, Officer Scott has consistently demonstrated his commitment and dedication to the law enforcement profession and to the Rochester Police Department.



Officer Scott's exceptional communication skills have served him extremely well as the official Master of Ceremony for BOHA events, Do the Right Thing and other awards ceremonies, and finally as PIO.

Always gracious and supportive, Officer Scott's positive impact on his fellow officers and community members will be felt long after he departs. Please join me in congratulating him on a job well done and wishing him well as he enters a new chapter in his life.



# R P D NEWS

June 2012



**We've got your back.**  
**THE ROCHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT**



NSC OFFICERS - SOUTHWEST

*Pictured from left:* Lieutenant Robert Hill, Officer Kristin Runyon, Officer Carl Dickerson, Officer Jeff Schroeder, Officer Vincent Agnone, Officer Andrew DiMaria, Officer Joseph Trovato

